

# MICHIGAN STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

120 WEST SAGINAW STREET, EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823, PHONE 517/337-1351  
FAX 517/337-2490

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MEMO TO: House Health Policy Committee  
FROM: Daniel B. Michael, MD, MSMS President  
RE: Opposition of House Bills 4468, 4469, and 5043

On behalf of the 16,000 physician members of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS), I am writing to express our opposition to House Bills 4468, 4469, and 5043. This package of bills seeks a laudable goal in attempting to protect the public, however it does so in a manner that singles out health professionals and undercuts the authority of professional boards that are able to make decisions on a case-by-case basis.

MSMS is not interested in protecting sexual predators and believes that existing criminal law and licensing regulations are sufficient to address the issue of criminal sexual conduct. If enacted, this package of bills would limit any health professional from re-entering their field if convicted of criminal sexual conduct felony. In other words, this bill would, in addition to the criminal conviction, would deprive the health professional of their livelihood in perpetuity.

MSMS would concede that in some instances this type of sanction could be warranted in order to protect the public. In all other instances, this legislation would preclude the licensing boards from making determinations about the fitness of a professional to re-enter their field. In the field of medicine, the Michigan Department of Community Health and, in particular, the Bureau of Health Professions have a strong track record of appropriately sanctioning physicians commensurate with the nature of their offense.

